

## Pesach 5759

Passover begins Wednesday evening, March 31. Sha'ar Zahav has a number of activities planned to enrich your Passover observance and ensure that all members of our community have a festive celebration this year.

### First Night Seder for All CSZ Members

The commandment most often repeated in the Torah is to treat with respect the stranger in our midst because each of us was a stranger in the land of Egypt. At this time of year when we celebrate our liberation from bondage in Egypt and our exodus to the promised land, we must pay particular attention to the strangers among us. The Passover haggadah instructs us to set an extra place at our seder table and reminds us that being a stranger can mean many different things. As the CSZ haggadah says, "All who are afraid, all who think they have no place, those who fear they do not know enough to participate and those who have seen too much to believe in hope, we have set aside a place for you."

To make our liturgy a reality, we have a "seder matching" program to ensure that all CSZ members have a first night seder to attend. In the spirit of Passover, please call Renée in the CSZ office if you can offer a seat at your seder or if you are looking for a seder to attend.

### Second Night Congregational Seder

CSZ will host its annual second night seder on Thursday, April 1 at the Fort Mason Officer's Club. Please sign up for the seder with the enclosed flier and mail it back to the office no later than March 19.

### Women's Seder

Join with Jewish women from around the Bay Area and experience the Passover seder from a women's perspective. We will sing and dance and tell the story of our prophet Miriam. Together we will eat, drink and celebrate Jewish women throughout history. You are invited to bring your own musical instruments and

a friend to add to the ruah (spirit). CSZ is pleased to co-sponsor again this inspirational seder for women of all ages with Congregation Emanu-El and Beth Sholom's Rosh Chodesh group. The seder will be held at Congregation Emanu-El, 2 Lake Street in San Francisco, on the sixth night of Passover, Monday April 5, at 6 pm. The cost is \$35 for members of the sponsoring congregations and \$45 for all others.

### Passover Preparation Class

Rabbi Litman will teach two Passover preparation classes to help you make this your best Pesach ever. Come discover traditions from Jewish communities throughout the world that will add depth, meaning and creativity to your seder and observance of Passover. The first class will take place on Wednesday, March 24 at 7 pm and will focus on enhancing the spirituality of your Passover observance. The second class will be held March 27 at 9:30 am, and will be geared towards families with children and focus on how to make the seder more meaningful for your children. RSVP for either class by calling the CSZ office.

### Chocolate Desserts for Passover

Make your Passover tastier this year while supporting the Mishkan Dolores Capital Campaign. Jeff Forman, a CSZ Va'ad member and classically-trained professional chef, will teach a class on making kosher for Passover chocolate desserts. He will adapt classic French desserts for Passover. The class will take place at CSZ on March 7 from noon to 4 pm. The cost will be on sliding scale, \$120-\$180. Call the office to RSVP.

## Purim Celebration

Come celebrate Purim CSZ style on March 1 at 6:30 pm in our new Mishkan. We will read Megillah, sing and be silly. Dress up as your favorite Purim character and join in the fun! Vegetarian dinner will be available for purchase.

## Rabbi's Column

### Observing Yizkor

On Passover Shabbat, April 3, the congregation will observe a special Yizkor service focusing our spiritual awareness on our loved ones who have passed to the grave. The name of the service, Yizkor, is derived from the Hebrew root which signifies remembrance, itself a sacred act—a mitzvah—in Jewish tradition. The common title of this commemoration, Yizkor, is an abbreviation of the name of the full prayer, *hazkarat neshamot*, "remembering the souls," which follows the reading of the Torah on this Shabbat.



Rabbi Jane Litman

Many scholars think that the liturgical custom of remembering the departed dates back over two thousand years to the first Hanukkah when the victorious Maccabees prayed for the souls of their dead comrades in the newly liberated Temple (II Mac. 22:39-45). In the Middle Ages, Ashkenazi congregations compiled lengthy death rolls of martyrs killed in periods of persecution and created extensive rites to honor their heroic behavior. In time, the death rolls came to include not only martyrs, but all deceased members of the community.

Jewish tradition provides a number of opportunities for people to express their natural feelings of grief. There is also a specific day which mourners observe individually: *yahrzeit*. It is a Yiddish word which means "anniversary." *Yahrzeit* is commemorated on the annual return of the date of death. It is a day of solemnity, and a special candle is lit. Some people observe a daytime fast as an expression of loss. Torah study and *tzedakah* are also appropriate. In terms of prayer, *yahrzeit* is commemorated by reading the name of the beloved prior to the usual Shabbat Kaddish.

Continued on page 6



## CSZ at the UAHC Biennial

Over the course of my presidency, I have written about the talent and commitment of our lay leadership, not just within our synagogue, but in the larger Jewish community. The Union of American Hebrew Congregations' Regional Biennial Convention this past January was a case in point.

While I know that we have a fabulous membership and a unique perspective on congregational life, it is wonderful to see the larger Jewish community experiencing us that way too. Sha'ar Zahav had a delegation of 16 lay leaders and professional staff present at the weekend-long event, the second largest congregational representation. This showing included UAHC Regional Board First Vice President Daniel Chesir, UAHC Regional Board Leadership Development Committee Chair Robin Leonard, Rabbi Litman and Program Director Renée Bauer. UAHC National Board member Mike Rankin was unable to attend the Biennial, as he was attending another UAHC meeting in New York. CSZ representatives led several workshops throughout the weekend.

In my opinion, though, the greatest honor to Sha'ar Zahav was brought by the wonderful devar torah delivered by Robin Leonard at the Saturday morning Shabbat service. While I cannot describe the impact that Robin's drash had on the several hundred lay leaders and clergy present, I can tell you that I consider it an almost perfect example of the values, intellect and commitment present in our congregation. Read it for yourselves and see what you think.

### Devar Torah, January 22, 1999, UAHC Regional Biennial

Shabbat Shalom. As we all know from our study sessions this morning, this week's Torah portion is Bo. Bo opens in the middle of a story, the story that immediately precedes the greatest event in our people's history. The final three plagues—swarms of locusts, absolute darkness and the slaying of the first born—are visited upon the Egyptians

because of Pharaoh's continual refusal to let the Israelites leave Egypt.

As you'll recall, God does not visit these scourges upon the Egyptians without purpose or without seeking some alternative. Indeed, before each plague, God sends Moses and his brother Aaron to Pharaoh in an effort to secure the peaceful release of the Israelites. Each time, Moses and Aaron fail—well, that's not exactly true. Pharaoh does offer to let some of the Israelites leave, but Moses does not accept, saying "We will all go, young and old: we will go with our sons and daughters."

Who were these people—the young and the old, with their sons and their daughters? The Torah portion tells us that 600,000 "men on foot" made the journey out of Egypt. Biblical scholars estimate that 600,000 men on foot translate into a total community of around two million people—men on foot, older or infirm men carried on animals or in carts, women and children.

Put yourself in Moses' position for a moment. Here is one man, arguing to the ruler of the country enslaving him,

that two million people be allowed to leave. Do you think Moses really cared about each and every individual Israelite? Wouldn't it have been easier to argue that half the community—or even just a quarter of it, a full 500,000 people—be allowed to go?

To begin with, some of the people were no doubt sick or injured from years of dehumanizing work and inadequate medical attention. These people would be a tremendous burden on the rest of the community. Furthermore, it's probably fair to assume that the Israelite community had its share of people who were lazy, mean spirited, socially inappropriate, conniving, unjust, self-centered, abusive, irritable, stupid, unskilled, bigoted and any number of other things—you get the picture—and who, quite frankly, might better be left behind.

And what about the Israelites as Israelites?

Jews, as we know so very well, are not homogeneous, and it's unlikely that our ancestors enslaved in Egypt were.

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Diana Buchbinder

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## Women's History Month

### Honoring Women of Valor

For the third year, CSZ is participating in a National Women's History Month program designed to educate the Jewish community about the lives and accomplishments of Jewish women. Each year the two sponsoring agencies, the Jewish Women's Archive and Ma'yan: The Jewish Women's Project in NYC, choose three women of valor to honor. Emma Lazarus, Hannah Greenbaum Solomon, and Justine Wise Polier are the 1999 women of valor.

Emma Lazarus, born in 1849 in New York, was one of the first successful American Jewish writers. She is most well-known for writing "Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to breathe free," an excerpt from her celebrated 1883 poem "The New Colossus" that is engraved on a plaque on the Statue of Liberty. Her words continue to inspire our thinking about freedom and exile today. Emma Lazarus dealt with themes of Jewish history throughout her career, but after 1881 the plight of Jewish exiles became her greatest cause. She matched her bold poetry and essays with activism to aid Eastern European immigrants and create a Jewish homeland in Palestine.

Hannah Greenbaum Solomon, born in 1858 to a middle-class Chicago family, paved the way for women's entry into Jewish communal affairs. In 1893 she founded the National Council of Jewish Women (NCJW), the first national Jewish women's organization in America. From its inception, NCJW was committed to Jewish ideals of social justice, education and philanthropy. When Solomon retired as president of the

Council in 1905, she focused her attention on civic work, heading many boards and organizations in Chicago including the Bureau of Personal Service and the Illinois Industrial School for Girls. Part of a generation of middle-class women who were committed to both family and social justice, Solomon's activism helped raise the profile of women in public life and redefined the boundaries of "public" and "private" spheres for Jewish women.

Justine Wise Polier, born in 1903, was the first woman ever appointed as a judge in the state of New York and was a visionary in juvenile justice reform. Serving as justice of the Domestic Relations Court for 38 years, Polier led the way for the establishment of mental health and public adoption services for children. Polier's championship of civil liberties, welfare reform, child advocacy, labor compensation, cultural pluralism and religious freedom had revolutionary effects on public policy. Additionally, she was a founder of the Children's Defense Fund and worked closely with Eleanor Roosevelt in the Office of Civilian Defense. Widely considered a voice of conscience of her era, Justine Wise Polier left a crucial legacy of social activism.

To learn more about these women, check out the posters in the synagogue foyer or visit the Jewish Women's Archive website at <http://www.jwa.org>.

### Women's Writings to Their Children

As part of our monthly parent education series, Rabbi Litman will lead a workshop entitled "Ethical Teachings: Women's Writings to Their Children."

The class will examine Jewish women's letters to their children, including those by Glukel of Hamel from the 17th Century and Francine Klagsburn from our time. These letters will provide the basis of a conversation about how we can pass on our moral ideals to our children. The discussion will take place at CSZ on March 6 from 9:45 am to noon; bagels will be provided, and childcare is available by reservation for pre-Kadimah-age children. Call Renée in the office to reserve a space.

### Havdalah With Sarah Shulman

CSZ is proud to co-sponsor with Metropolitan Community Church (MCC) an evening with writer and activist Sarah Shulman. It is most appropriate to have Sarah, a true woman of valor in our community, as our teacher during women's history month. She is a founding member of both the Lesbian Avengers and ACT-UP and was active in progressive politics and grass roots movements for social change from an early age. She is the author of several books including *The Sophie Horowitz Story*, *Girls, Visions and Everything*, and *Empathy*. Celebrate Women's History month at this special Havdalah event on March 6 at 7 pm.

## Call For Musicians

—Lyssa Friedman, Ritual Committee Chair

Can you strum a guitar accompaniment to Eili Eili? Play a meditative interlude on the piano? Sound a haunting Sephardic melody on clarinet? Welcome Shabbat with a klezmer's fiddle?

The Ritual Committee seeks to develop CSZ's musical liturgy—and to explore the acoustics of our new synagogue. Your instrument can be the oboe, the mandolin or the voice. You can compose, read music or play by ear. Service-leading experience is not required; a desire to share your gift with the congregation is.

Contact me at [Lyssa1@pacbell.net](mailto:Lyssa1@pacbell.net) to ask questions or to get scheduled.

In the Beginning, God created music. And it was good.



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## Pesach: Non-Graven Images

—*Nina Wouk for the Ritual Committee*  
God brought us forth from Egypt, the Pesach haggadah tells us, "with great terror, with signs and with wonders." Interpreting this phrase, the traditional hagaddah preserves a mysterious, possibly pre-rabbinic, teaching that the Biblical words "great terror" refer to the Divine Presence (Shekhina) made visible. Initially, this seems thoroughly un-Jewish. After all, Jews conceive God as an unembodied actor—one without even the semblance of a body.

Or do we? Can human minds, dependent on human senses, regularly attain and persist in such a conception? The words of our prayers suggest otherwise. Our generation struggles constantly with altering the images we use in prayer. Would this matter if we did not on some level take the images literally?

The Torah itself tells us that God is both visible and invisible. As Moses is told on Mount Sinai, "a human being cannot see My face and live. . . You will see (only) My back." What does it mean to see God's back? As a ship passing through water churns up a wake, so can we see God's wake in the world.

Rabbi Lynn Gottlieb writes of her first dramatic understanding that God need not be imaged only as remote father or archaic ruler: "The rabbinic sages record a folk legend that describes the God witnessed by the Israelites at the shores of the Red Sea as a man of war, and the God of Sinai as a learned sage. What if I replaced the Man of War with a Woman Giving Birth. . . highlighting the birth images inherent in the story."

Shocking, isn't it? God with legs, with a uterus, with a passage through which live beings emerge into the world: Physical—powerful—wrong. Yet it is only a slight elaboration on the hagaddah.

God is visible in the Pesach story primarily, but not only, through action: "Has any god ever tried to go and remove one nation from the midst of another nation, . . . with a strong hand and an outstretched arm?" Has any other so-called god acted as midwife and killer, one hand reaching out to bring forth the newborn nation, the other stretching out the sword over all the first-born of Egypt? On the awesome night of the Exodus, God was both.

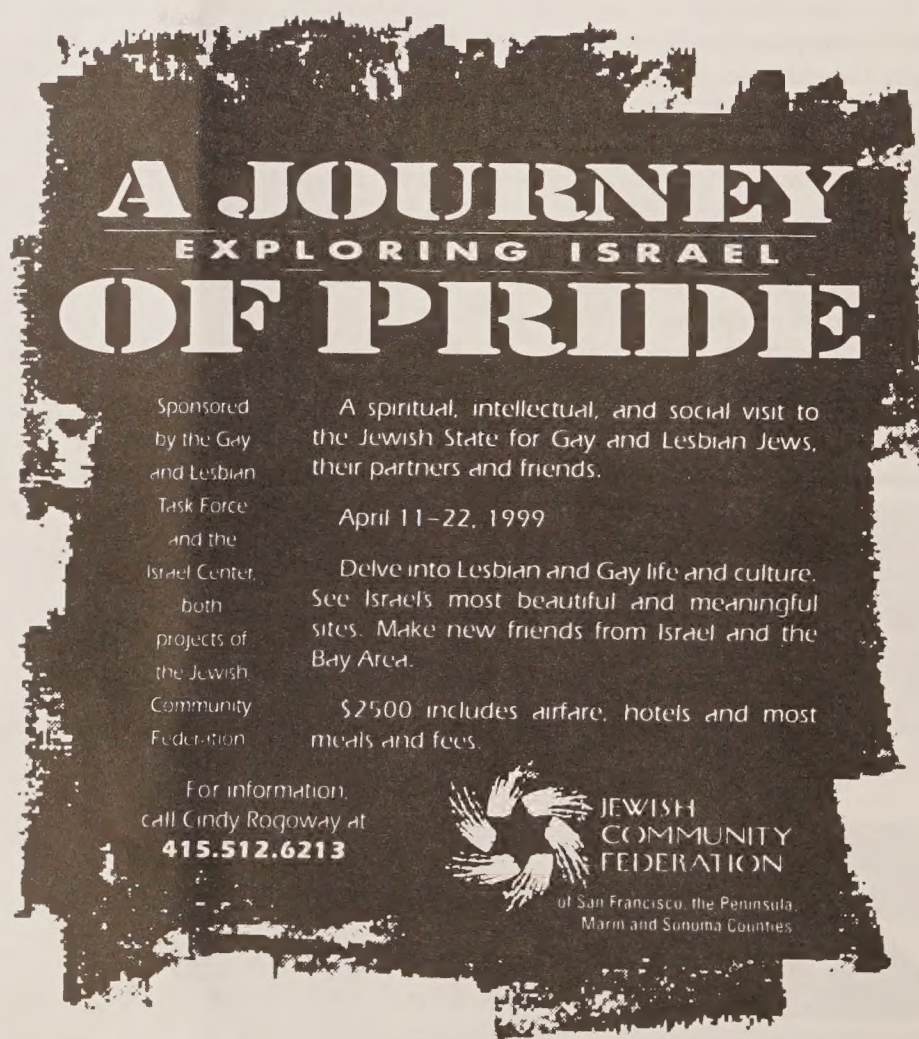
God is more explicitly visible at the Splitting of the Sea. The Torah tells us

that the Israelites saw God's "mighty hand;" the siddur recounts "Your children saw Your Kingdom." The Hebrew word for "kingdom" is "malchut;" in kabbalah, "Malchut" is another name for "Shekhina," the presence of God in the physical world. Kabbalistic theology sorts the divine attributes into masculine and feminine; of these facets, Shekhina is always feminine. Thus one chain of interpretation leads us directly to God, at the Sea, being physically revealed in female form.

As in Egypt, also at the Sea, the midwife's hand becomes a warrior's hand, leaving the Egyptians dead on the seashore, while bringing the infant nation into being. God as warrior is both the strategizing general and the infantry soldier who crawls through mud to loosen and mire the enemy's chariot wheels. In Rabbi Gottlieb's poem, God is both the vulnerable birthing mother and the protective midwife. If the Torah was given in 70 tongues, if the manna tasted like each Israelite's favorite food, how could God's glory revealed not take infinite shape?

Transcendent power can be revealed as different facets through different faces. Thus, in the Torah God is depicted as a bone-vibrating voice, shown as a glowing cloud, likened to a devouring fire, pictured as an eagle hovering over its young. Taking all this together, it's easy to understand why the Hindus depict their gods as bursting forth with arms and legs. How better could people wedded to a visual representation of divinity show its overwhelming multiplicity?

As Jews, we are fortunate to be spared this exciting but ultimately self-defeating attempt. Our experience of God, like that of our ancestors at the Sea, can take visual form but only in glimpses that spread and dissolve like the ripples long after a ship has passed. Our enduring understanding of God is through action, both that which is beyond and that which is within our power. As our deeds can increase the divine presence in this world, so can our capacity to imagine bring us, at the constant crises of birth and death, closer to the Source of power to both imagine and act.



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Members of the congregation receive the *Forward*. Nonmembers can receive a *Forward* subscription for \$18/year.

#### Members of the Newsletter Committee

*Chair and Editorial Coordinator:* Robin Leonard

*Layout Coordinator:* Rose Katz

*Editing/Proofreading/Layout:* Judith Cohen, Mark Greenberg, Peter Jacobs, Brian Jer-sky, Batya Kalis, Sarah Nathe, David Posner, Kevin W. Reames, Jacob Rothman, Karen Schiller, Tory Weiser

*Photography:* Michael Bettinger

*Advertising:* Roslyn Fuerman (510/526-1209 or [froslyn@earthlink.net](mailto:froslyn@earthlink.net))

*Typesetting:* David Lester, Mouse Type Inc.

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**Display Ads** are \$15 per column inch for nonmembers and \$10 per column inch for members, with discounts available for size and frequency. Ads should be camera ready; any ads that require typesetting, camera and/or artwork will be subject to a one-time production charge.

**Classified Ads** are \$5 for up to 20 words, plus \$1 for each 10 additional words.

Payment must accompany ad and should be sent to Congregation Sha'ar Zahav, 290 Dolores St., San Francisco, California 94103, marked: attention *Forward* advertising. We reserve the right to reject any ad.

March 1999/Volume 22, Issue 7.



## Adult Education Opportunities Abound

### Hebrew in a Day

CSZ and Lehrhaus Judaica are co-sponsoring a one-day Hebrew class on March 7 from 2 to 6:30 pm at CSZ. The course will introduce you to the aleph-bet, vowels, and essential pronunciation and sight-reading skills. Using games, songs, taped conversation and music as learning aids and models, learning to read Hebrew becomes an enjoyable mitzvah. This is a perfect beginning for studies that will lead to reading comprehension. The cost of the class is \$30.

### Diversity Dialogue: Gender Identity and Sexuality

Come learn from transgender and transsexual members of our community about issues they face as Jews at CSZ and in the larger community. We will discuss issues of family, sexuality and coming out. Don't miss this important discussion taking place on Saturday, March 13 immediately following Saturday morning services (around noon). A light lunch will be provided.

If you'd like to speak on the panel, call Renée in the CSZ office.

### Queer Talmud

Rabbi Litman and CSZ members continue to meet downtown every other Tuesday to study what is queer in the Talmud. This spring the class is exploring texts on closeting, coming out, physicality and spirituality. Drop in for some lunchtime traditional text-based learning on March 2, 16 or 30 from noon to 1 pm at the Hobart Building, 582 Market Street at Montgomery in the 10th floor conference room.

## East Bay Chavurah Planning Brunch

The East Bay Chavurah has been holding Shabbat services the third Friday night of each month for eight years. We have met in members' homes, sharing hospitality, warmth and Shabbat in a smaller setting. What else would we like to do? Would we like to have more social gatherings, Saturday morning services or greater involvement with the East Bay Jewish/GLBT Jewish communities? What are your ideas?

Come discuss future events at a vegetarian potluck brunch on Sunday, March 14, 10:30 am, at the home of Ida Kuluk, Susan Spott and Evan Kuluk, 4042 Maple Avenue, Oakland. If you can't make it but would like to share your ideas, contact Larry Wexler at 510/523-6775 or Ida Kuluk at 510/530-4673 or [ida.kuluk@ncal.kaiperm.org](mailto:ida.kuluk@ncal.kaiperm.org).

## Social Action/ Tikkun Olam Calendar

**March 5:** Purim Oneg Shabbat Lunch with the Tenderloin Outreach Project

**March 14–16:** Interfaith Council Temporary Shelter Project, Meal Service

**April 25:** Sukkot in April

**May 8:** Ron Wilmot Bike Ride with Project Inform

**May 23:** Habitat for Humanity Communities of Faith Workday

**August:** Back to School Supplies Drive with S.F. Dept. of Family & Children's Services

**October 17:** Susan B. Koman Race for the Cure

Mark your calendars and sign up for a project now! Call either Laura Lowe (247-2409) or Allan Berenstein (863-8033) to volunteer or for more information.

## For All Things Judaic

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## January Va'ad Minutes

—Joe Hample, Recorder

Rabbi Litman gave a devar torah acknowledging Allan Berenstein and Laura Lowe, who co-chair the Social Action Committee. Opportunities to fulfill mitzvot usually come to us without our initiative, either at regular seasons or at unpredictable times. But there are two mitzvot we actively pursue: justice and peace.

This is reflected in the expressions *bodek tzedek* ("investigator" or, literally, "justice searcher") and *rodef shalom* ("peacemaker" or, literally "peace seeker"). CSZ's Social Action Committee embodies these Jewish values.

Allan and Laura have been working with the Dolores Street Shelter, Sukkot in April (in conjunction with Christmas in April), Russian seniors at Notre Dame Plaza, the AIDS Memorial Grove, Habitat for Humanity and Project Open Hand. They want to focus on short-term projects requiring five or six volunteers and meeting a variety of needs.

They distributed a schedule of upcoming events, including a Tu Beshvat tree planting, meals for the homeless and for Jewish seniors, house fixing projects, a Project Inform bike ride, a breast cancer footrace and a school supplies drive for children on public assistance. The congregation can also support ongoing projects, such as collecting blankets or toiletries for shelter residents. Teens have participated in the food projects, and Sukkot in April is developing a teen initiative. Social Action projects raise CSZ's profile and dissolve prejudice against Jews and the LGBT community. The Va'ad thanked Allan and Laura for their hard work.

Program Director Renée Bauer distributed fliers for the Ron Wilmot scholarship fund for children of gay or lesbian parents. Rachel Maclachlan is attending the monthly meeting of our neighborhood safety committee. Renée's written report thanked Dev Felder Noily, Robin Leonard, Greta Miskatel, Nathan Robinson and Sharyn Saslafsky for the success of Dedication Weekend.

President Diana Buchbinder reported that the Gift Shop Committee has moved into the Mishkan and is doing a brisk business in T-shirts and books. The Va'ad thanks Jeff Rubin and the Gift Shop Committee for their hard

work, especially since much of what they sell is credited to other committees.

Administrator Lea Salem distributed an updated list of committee chairs, along with information about the Jewish Community Federation's Super Sunday fundraiser on February 7. The sanctuary has been crowded lately; Lea will try to get us more pews and prayerbooks and find places to hang coats and change babies' diapers.

## Beth Am's Kulanu to Visit CSZ

CSZ will welcome Kulanu to join us for Shabbat evening services on Friday, March 26. Kulanu is a grass roots organization founded in 1997 by members of Congregation Beth Am who wished to provide outreach support to their young gay and lesbian family members and fellow congregants.

Congregation Beth Am is a large Reform congregation located in Los Altos Hills. Kulanu strives both to support family members who are learning to accept the sexual identity of their relative and to create a more nurturing environment for gays and lesbians in mainstream congregations. The group marched in the 1998 Pride Parade, is creating a gay and lesbian section in the Beth Am library and is working to make the religious school curriculum more inclusive. We look forward to sharing Shabbat in our sanctuary with this visionary group of Jews.

## Sponsor an Oneg Shabbat

Ever wanted to hold a reception for 175 people in your community? Consider sponsoring an oneg Shabbat. People have sponsored onegs as a way to honor birthdays, weddings, anniversaries, accomplishments, visits from loved ones and any number of other occasions.

Oneg sponsorship currently costs \$60, which we think is a great deal. If you'd like to sponsor an oneg, please call the CSZ office.

## Rabbi's Calendar

In January, Rabbi Litman went to Los Angeles to attend the board meeting of the Millenium March on Washington.

On March 3, Rabbi Litman will speak on Reconstructionism at Stanford University. On March 5, Rabbi Litman's sermon will be entitled "Thoughts on International Jewish Women's Shabbat."

On March 11, 18 and 25, Rabbi Litman will teach an Introduction to Judaism class at Congregation Emanu-El. On March 21, Rabbi Litman will co-lead, with Reverend Jim Mitulski of MCC San Francisco, an interfaith service at the meeting of the California Alliance for Pride and Equality (CAPE) in Sacramento.

On March 23, Rabbi Litman will attend the PARR (Pacific Association of Reform Rabbis) Board meeting in Los Angeles. Later that evening, Rabbi Litman will speak to the Women's Division of San Jose State University on the topic of Women and Judaism.

On March 26, Rabbi Litman's sermon will be entitled "From Sacramento to Washington: Pride and Equality Now."

## Rabbi's Column

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The collective Yizkor service is more extensive in terms of liturgy and includes recitation of *El Maleh Rahamim* for individual beloveds, Psalm 23 (God is My Shepherd), readings from liturgy concerning grief and bereavement and a full congregational recitation of Kaddish. Eventually, it also became the Jewish custom at this season to visit the grave sites of the deceased and for the living to give tzedakah in memory of them.

In many communities, Yizkor is observed on Yom Kippur and the three ancient pilgrimage festivals: Shavuot, Sukkot and Passover. In autumn, our High Holy Day worship space is filled with congregants who come to Yom Kippur afternoon services in order to participate in Yizkor, to share grief in the comfort of caring community. This Passover, we have another opportunity in the Jewish yearly cycle for healing. If you have a loss you wish to acknowledge and observe, this is a way in which Jews have found solace for millennia. I hope to see you there.



## Social Action/Tikkun Olam Opportunities

This month, the Social Action/Tikkun Olam Committee is sponsoring two volunteer events.

First, on Friday, March 5 from 1-3:15 pm, CSZ is teaming up with Jewish Family and Children's Services' Tenderloin Outreach Project to host a lunch for isolated Jewish seniors who live in the Tenderloin. JFCS organizes these luncheons in partnership with other Jewish organizations eight times a year.

This year, CSZ has agreed to be the sponsor at the annual Purim lunch. As the sponsoring organization, we need three or four volunteers to set up, serve, clean up the lunch and schmooze with the guests. We are also responsible for paying for the lunch provided by the Kosher Nutrition project of the JCC, at a total cost of \$100. Please call Allan Berenstein (863-8033) to volunteer or send a check made out to CSZ earmarked for the Harvey Milk Social Action Fund to help sponsor this important community outreach project.

On March 14-16, CSZ will take part in the San Francisco Interfaith Council's Temporary Shelter Project, which provides hot meals and temporary shelter to homeless San Franciscans during the winter months. Congregations from diverse faiths join together in the effort to care for homeless women, men and children either by offering their buildings as shelters or by taking responsibility to provide food and volunteers on specific evenings.

CSZ will do its part by providing food and volunteers for the shelter guests at St. Paulus Lutheran Church. The Social Action/Tikkun Olam Committee needs volunteers who can cook, deliver or serve food on any of the three nights. Sign up for this mitzvah project by calling Laura Lowe (247-2409) or Renée in

the CSZ office.

Sukkot in April, the annual Jewish community-wide day of service, takes place this year on Sunday, April 25. Sign up on the enclosed flier to participate in this exhilarating and meaningful mitzvah project.

Finally, the Social Action/Tikkun Olam Committee thanks the volunteers—Allan Berenstein, Alan Gordon, Michael Schaffer, Tory Weiser and Robin Leonard—who celebrated Tu beShevat with shovels by planting trees with the Friends of the Urban Forest in the Oceanview neighborhood on January 30.

## Social Directory Coming in April

The updated version of the CSZ Social Membership Directory will be sent out during the month of April. Please note that no one is listed in the directory unless they expressly give us their permission.

Last year everyone in the congregation was telephoned or emailed in order to determine who wished to be included. If we did not reach you, we did not include your name and contact information.

Anyone who was included last year will automatically be included again this year, as will any new members who have given us permission to be included. Please call the CSZ office if:

- You would like to update your address or other contact information.
- You were not included in the 1998 Directory, but wish to be included in the 1999 Directory.
- You were included in the 1998 Directory, but do not wish to be listed in the 1999 Directory.

## Nominating Committee 1999

The election of new officers and members of the Va'ad begins each winter with the President's selection of a five-person Nominating Committee. This year's members are Susan Tubbesing (Chair), Michael Chertok, Allan Gold, Amy Scharf and Michael Schaffer. Members of the Nominating Committee traditionally include a past president, a recent member of the Va'ad, previous members of the committee for continuity and at least one member new to the process.

In 1999, we will be electing a new President, new Vice Presidents and three Va'ad members who will serve three-year terms. We also will be filling an additional seat for a one-year term. The recommendation of individuals to serve on the Va'ad and as officers is part of our ongoing leadership development program.

Candidate recommendations are based on their work for, and understanding of, the congregation. We typically look at committee chairs and active members who share the congregation's commitment to Jewish learning, diversity and service to the community. While individuals are not selected to represent particular demographic groups, we strive to have a Va'ad that mirrors our diversity as a community.

The Nominating Committee prepares a balanced slate of candidates for election at the annual congregational meeting in May. If you are interested in serving or wish to recommend someone you believe should be considered for nomination, please contact a member of the Nominating Committee, who will be happy to speak with you.

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## President's Column

*continued from page 2*

It's true that at this Biblically early stage in their development as a religious community, very little is required of the Israelites. It is not until later in Exodus and then in Leviticus that God gets heavy-handed with the rules and regulations for living as Jews. At the time of the Exodus, we know that the people were to worship their God. And we know that Israelite boys were to be circumcised as a sign of God's covenant with the Hebrew people.

Imagine how many Israelites were falling short, for lack of a better term. They were the only monotheistic people in a world filled with pagans and multi-god worshippers. How easy it would have been to dismiss your own God in favor of another—or more likely, in favor of several others. And perhaps even more so if you have known only slavery your entire life. It's easy to doubt the presence of a just and loving God whom you are supposed to worship and honor when you have never known justice or a loving world. This questioning of God, coupled with a complete lack of autonomy, probably also meant that the Israelite slaves often did not or could not perform the covenantal act.

What a motley group! But it is this entire group that Moses insists leave together as one—the men and the women, the old and the young, the personally offensive and the doubters. They are all to come. If any one must remain behind, all shall remain behind until the day that the entire community can leave.

Would a modern-day Moses make this argument to a modern-day Pharaoh?

We live in a time when the world has never seen such divisions among Jews. We know the situation in Israel—despite the growing efforts to build bridges, so many still fall into camps—secular versus religious; Ashkenazic versus Sephardic; Reform and Conservative versus ultra-Orthodox; Labor versus Likud; those who would give up land for peace versus those who would kill the people who propose giving up land for peace. We here in the U.S. are affected by these "Israeli" issues, of course—particularly in the areas of conversion and the law of return.

And diaspora Jews do not model world harmony. In Northern California and the Bay Area, Jews of different stripes seem

more united than in many other parts of the world, but that may be because of the general liberal environment of this area. Many of the issues played out in Israel are duplicated in diaspora cities with large and very diverse Jewish communities, like New York and London. And we progressive Jews have our own issues—such as the nature and depth of the inclusion of gay and lesbian people into the Jewish community.

And so I ask again, would a modern-day Moses argue to a modern-day Pharaoh that the entire Jewish community remain as one?

Let us hope so. While others may exclude us, we must never fall prey to that same behavior. We cannot omit, or leave behind, those with whom we disagree, even if we know it would make our lives easier and safer. Once we all left Egypt, we all came together again, as one people, to experience revelation at Sinai. This is a part of our history we cannot ignore.

It is said that all was given at Sinai—the written Torah, the oral Torah and the ongoing interpretations—and that the specifics are revealed over time. Our role as progressive Jews is to reveal what God gave to us at Sinai so that the world can come to embrace pluralistic minds, pluralistic hearts and pluralistic laws.

Ken yehi ratzon.

## Torah Study

Now that we are finally settled in our own building, we will resume weekly Torah study. Torah study will take place every Saturday at 9:30 am at CSZ. Torah study will be led by either Rabbi Litman or a member of the congregation.

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## Bikkur Cholim Seeks New Members

CSZ's Bikkur Cholim Committee is re-organizing. If you are interested in discussing and deciding how CSZ can better serve its ill members and people in the larger community, please attend the Bikkur Cholim Committee meeting on Wednesday, March 17, at 6:30 pm at CSZ.

## March Healing Service

The March Healing Service will be on the third Monday of the month, March 22 at 6 pm, not on the first Monday of the month.

## Naches

To Prudence Carter, on her new job.

To Sue Bojdak, on her new job at Spectrum.

To Stephanie Silverman and Hayden Houser, on their wedding.

To Barak Gale, on being chosen to participate in an interfaith meeting on tree conservation in Washington, DC.

To Mike Rankin, on the January 15, 1999 Northern California Jewish Bulletin article profiling his commitment to Judaism and social action.

To Jeff Forman and Paul Nemrow, on celebrating their 10th anniversary.

To Mark Oliver and Steve Polsky, on celebrating their 10th anniversary.

## New Members

The Membership Committee is pleased to announce that our congregation gained the following new members this month. A warm welcome to the most recent people to join our family:

Edmund Blake

David Feiger

Mark Leno

We are grateful that our congregation is growing. It is up to all of us to help our new members feel welcome as they become active participants in our community.



## Condolences

We extend our condolences to members who have suffered recent losses:

**Yavn'ela Oline**, on the death of her father, Charles Pruett.

**Carrie Yang Costello**, on the death of her grandfather, Giuseppe Piazza.

**Emma and Aaron Buchbinder**, on the death of their grandfather, Roy Garay.

**Stacey Hart**, on the death of her grandmother, Ida Hart.

**Jeff Sherman**, on the death of his aunt, Sadie Newman.

**Kyle West**, on the death of his cousin, Eric Morris.

**Phyllis Mintzer**, on the death of her cousin, Marion Behrens.

**Lyssa Friedman**, on the death of her uncle, Willie Fried.

**Karen Erlichman**, on the death of her uncle, Theodore Tannenwald.

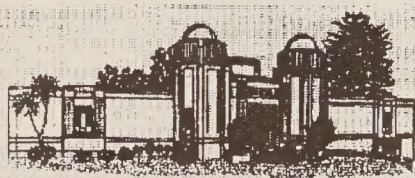
**Jeffrey Lilly**, on the death of his friend, Luby Pelletier.

## Members' Yahrzeits

7	Isabel Fishman
11	Ede Rosen
16	Ted Mendonca
20	Robert Coffman
26	Michael Lipson
28	Neill Rosen
31	Marvin Steele

## Building Assessment

Have you paid your 1999 Building Assessment? Just a reminder that payments are due by April 15, 1999. Your support enables us to keep our new building running.



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## Tot Shabbat News

At the planning meeting on January 28, parents decided that Tot Shabbat will now take place on Saturday morning instead of on Friday evening; we will meet the fourth Saturday of each month. Join us this month on Saturday, March 27 at 9:30 am for a special Tot Shabbat focusing on preparing for Passover.

In addition to regular Tot Shabbat programming, the parent's council planned some social events for CSZ families with toddlers and preschoolers. Join us for a picnic and play date at Douglass Park in Noe Valley on Sunday, March 14 at 11 am. Bring lunch; drinks will be provided. RSVP to Renée in the CSZ office.

## Legalizing Lesbian and Gay Families

On March 23, CSZ, with the Bay Area Lawyers for Individual Freedom, National Center for Lesbian Rights, Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund and All Our Families Coalition, is co-sponsoring an educational panel on legalizing lesbian and gay families. The panel will be held at CSZ at 7 pm. The panelists are Kate Kendell, Executive Director of the National Center for Lesbian Rights, Jean Johnson, a San Francisco tax and estate planning attorney, and Jennifer Pizer, Managing Attorney of Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund's Western Regional Office. The panel moderator will be CSZ member Frederick C. Hertz, an Oakland attorney and author of *Legal Affairs: Essential Advice for Same-Sex Couples*. The program is presented as part of All Our Families Coalition's Northern California Awareness Week, March 21-27.

## Kadimah Korner

—David Shneer, Educator

Kadimah spent last month marking the course of time during the Bureau's Feast for Jewish Learning Rosh Hodesh Study. This month, we are focusing on Shabbat and Family Education.

### Kadimah regular calendar:

Kadimah Hebrew class—continues meeting every Wednesday except March 31, 4-6pm.

Kadimah Saturday classes—meet regularly during March.

Pesach Celebration—Saturday, March 27.

### Special events:

Parent Education, "Ethical Teachings: Jewish Women's Writings to Their Children," taught by Rabbi Litman, Saturday, March 6, 9:45 am to noon.

Kadimah Family Shabbat Dinner, Friday, March 12, 6:30 pm. Call David at 575-4962 to RSVP.

Passover Preparation for Families, taught by Rabbi Litman, Saturday, March 27, 9:30-10:30 am. This class will be in conjunction with the Kadimah Family Passover Day.

Israeli folk dancing as well as other forms of Jewish dance, taught by dance specialist Shirley Burr on Saturday, March 20, at 9:30 am.

Interfaith Council Meal, Tuesday, March 16 at the St. Paulus Shelter, is a project of Kadimah families and the Social Action/Tikkun Olam Committee. We need Kadimah families to prepare food for 25 people, and between six and ten volunteers to serve meals on the evening of March 16. This would make a great family mitzvah project, and is an opportunity to help develop our ties with the Mission community. Please call Renée in the CSZ office to offer your support for this worthwhile project.

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## Contributions

### AIDS Fund

Eva Zysman, in memory of Dr. Andrew Zysman.  
Neil Hart, in memory of Joel Lauden.  
Paul J. Glackman.

### Bikkur Cholim Fund

Jeff Forman and Paul Nemrow, in memory of Sadie Newman.

### Children's Education Fund

Dey and Antoinette Rose, in honor of Harper and Viva's naming ceremony.  
Rachel Schochet and Jody Patraha, in honor of Anna Stanger becoming bat mitzvah.

### General Fund

Allan Berenstein, in honor of the marriage of Louise and Bruce Kantor.  
Sue Bojdak and Debra Yates, in honor of Beth Sousa's entrance into the Covenant.  
Susan Colson and Maureen Anderson.  
Jerome Fishman.  
Arlene Gopan, in honor of Robin Leonard's *devar torah* at the UAHC Regional Biennial.  
Michael H. Kossman, in honor of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Gordon.  
Jack Lassner.  
Patrick Letellier, in honor of Drew Siegel.  
Victor Mitnick and Nancy Nagel.  
Rena Orenstein.  
Theodore Salomon.  
Russell H. Shaw, in honor of Shira Stutman's half anniversary.  
Russell and Carol Tat, in memory of Max S. Tat.  
Sam Thal, in honor of Mike Rankin.  
Ami Zusman, in memory of Benjamin Herzl Saperstein.  
Rachel Wahba and Judy Dlugacz, in memory of Katie Wahba and Josef Wahba.

### Harvey Milk Social Action Fund

Allan Berenstein, in memory of A. J. Berenstein.  
Carrie Yang Costello, in memory of Giuseppe Piazza.  
Jonathan Funk and John Arnold, in memory of Michael Kozlowski, Andrew Weiser, Alan Harap and Michael Rafferty.

### Library Fund

Lucy Bernholz, in loving memory of Alice Bernholz Sinkoff.

### Mishkan Dolores Capital Campaign

Arthur Cohen, in memory of Mary Rosenbloom.

Episcopal Church of Saint John the Evangelist.

Ellen Kugler.

Ma'ayan Lieberman, in memory of Estelle Lieberman.

Leah Molloy.

Nina Yang Hall, in memory of Great-Grampa Joe.

### Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

Jim Frazin, in honor of his and Louisa's wedding.

Dey and Antoinette Rose, with thanks to Rabbi Litman for their children's naming ceremony.

Lonnie Weiss, in memory of Evelyn Dunn.

Stained glass window design and artwork were donated by Allie and Jay Wolf Schlossberg-Cohen in honor of Ellie Cohen and Greta Miskatel.

## HIV Support Group

CSZ has an ongoing drop-in support group for members living with HIV/AIDS and their families and partners each month, in addition to quarterly Shabbat dinners. Mark your calendars for the next drop-in support group on Saturday, March 20, at 3 pm. For information and location, please call the synagogue office.

☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆

## Anniversaries

9 Richard Sinkoff and Doug Robeson  
11 Mark Oliver and Steven Polsky  
15 Bernard Choden and Lois Scott  
15 Seth Frohman and Raphael Hoch  
22 Michele Sullivan and Andrew Williamson  
24 Geraldine Barr and Maxine Epstein  
31 Jessie Ap'neva and Nina Wouk

☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆

## Birthdays

1 Lisa Geduldig  
1 Arthur Slepian  
3 Shelley Adler  
3 Howard Herman  
4 Emma Cuttler  
5 Stephanie Godt  
5 Edward Pollock  
5 Nancy Wecker  
8 Ann Biderman  
8 David Couch  
8 Donovan Somera  
9 Nancy Igdaloff  
9 Perry Paker  
9 Stephanie Silverman  
10 Stephen Shotland  
10 Dana Vinicoff  
11 Jessie Ap'neva  
12 Jerome Geffner  
13 Michael Frank  
13 Mary Schroeder  
14 Dey Rose  
14 Michael Shaps  
15 Judith Berkowitz  
15 Jeffrey Davidson  
15 Sara McLanahan  
16 Tracey Berliner  
16 Jonathan Pannor  
16 Alice Prussin  
17 Ian Sweedler  
18 Ann Bauman  
19 Rachel Wahba  
21 Mike Abramson  
21 Jeffrey Shuman  
22 Ezra Barth-Rogers  
22 Talia Barth-Rogers  
22 Ellen Novogrodsky  
23 Leslie Einhorn  
23 Dakota Fine  
23 James Greenberg  
23 David Williams  
24 Lucy Bernholz  
27 Rebecca Doctors  
28 Rebecca Blumen  
28 Mary Jane Eisenberg  
28 Lucy Fine  
28 Michael Hulton  
29 Bob Gutterman  
29 Ira Hirschfield  
30 Anthony Harris  
30 Carol Hoffman  
31 Neil Grungras  
31 Jonathan Robinson

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## APRIL FORWARD DEADLINES

### FOR ADVERTISING MONDAY, MARCH 1

To place a display ad, call Roslyn Fuerman (510/526-1209 or froslyn@earthlink.net). To place a classified ad, call the office.

### FOR ARTICLES MONDAY, MARCH 1

Please submit articles via e-mail to robinl@nolo.com. If you do not have e-mail, please submit them on a 3½-inch disk and mail to CSZ. No late submissions will be accepted without prior approval of the Forward editor.

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## Classifieds

**CO-PARENTING OPPORTUNITY DESIRED:** I am a 42-year old established, professional, Jewish, gay man living in San Francisco who eagerly seeks a lesbian (or lesbian couple) for the co-parenting of a child. Details of our shared responsibilities, both custodial and financial, are flexible. I believe it's very important to have a healthy balance amongst cultural, spiritual, open-minded family and community values. Becoming a parent has been my dream ever since I can remember. How about with you?... If so, please contact me at 282-5577.

**SEARCHING FOR SHARE RENTAL:** Former CSZ member Bill Ashley-Dobbin is looking to come home. I am a gay 54-year-old nonsmoker living on a fixed income. I can pay about \$300 per month. After laughter contact Leonard Brill locally at 824-7580, or Bill at 1010 University Avenue #157 San Diego, CA 92103-3398, 619/284-8919.

**LESBIAN COUPLES** with one child needed for dissertation research on couple relationship and decision-making regarding having another child. Participation involves completing questionnaires. For information, please call 415/273-7252 or email ddesmond@sirius.com.

**CO-PARENT WANTED:** I am a 34-year-old warm, educated, financially secure, CSZ member who will make a great dad. Looking for a woman or couple in the area interested in co-parenting. Flexibility, communication, stability, and raising the child in a loving and nurturing environment key. Call 415/552-9212.

**OUR FAMILY IS GROWING & we need more space!** We are current CSZ members who are expecting the arrival of our first child in April 1999. We are desperately seeking an affordable two bedroom flat, apartment or house to rent. Please call Ellen & Stephanie at 415/285-3626 or 415/552-6734 with any possible leads.

**ALL THINGS MACINTOSH:** Troubleshooter for hire! Solve mysterious freezes. Improve performance. Software support, tutoring and more. Roslyn, 510/526-1209.

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## Oneg Sponsors

We send our thanks to these generous people, who sponsored the Oneg Shabbat in recent weeks:

- 12/25 **Michael Chertok**, who provided flowers in honor of his parents, Barbara and Harvey Chertok.
- 1/29 **Jerry Rosenstein**, in loving memory of his parents, Max Rosenstein and Sophie Rosten.
- 2/19 **Ron Edelman**, in memory of his friend, Tom Mapp.

## Synagogue Information

**Congregation Sha'ar Zahav**  
290 Dolores Street  
San Francisco, CA 94103-2262  
861-6932 (voice); 861-6081 (fax)  
office@shaarzahav.org (email)  
http://www.shaarzahav.org (web)

**Rabbi Jane Rachel Litman**  
rabbijanelitman@shaarzahav.org

### Officers:

*President*, Diana Buchbinder  
(337-6319, threebuchs@sprynet.com, or president@shaarzahav.org)  
*First Vice President*, David Gellman

*Second Vice President*, Susan Tubbesing  
*Treasurer*, Arthur Slepian  
*Recorder*, Joe Hample

### Va'ad (Board) Members:

Ellie Cohen  
Jeff Forman  
Sarita Groisser  
Sara Haber  
Lisa Katz  
Robin Leonard  
Eileen Levy  
Jacob Rothman  
David Stein (ex officio)  
Robert Tat

### CSZ Staff:

*Educator*, David Shneer  
educator@shaarzahav.org  
*Administrator*, Lea Salem  
office@shaarzahav.org  
*Program Director*, Renée Bauer  
programdirector@shaarzahav.org  
*Kadimah Head Teacher*, Phyllis Mintzer  
*Administrative Assistant*, Melanie Kushnir  
*Youth Advisor*, Meredith Fenton

### Committee Chairs:

*Adult Education*, Sue Bojdak  
*Archives*, open  
*ARZA contact*, Ron Lezell  
*Baby Chavurah*, Melissa and Ari Grossman-Naples  
*Bequests and Donations*, Richard Inlander  
*Bikkur Cholim*, David Shaber  
*Bisexual Chavurah*, Jim Frazin  
*Book Group*, Mark Mackler  
*Building & Grounds*, Arthur Cohen  
*Bylaws*, Edward Pollock  
*Cemetery*, Richard Inlander  
*Children's Education Board*, Ruth Rainero  
*Cookbook Project*, Robin Leonard  
*Dor Rishon*, open  
*Dues Liaison*, Eric Temple

*East Bay Services*, open  
*Endowment Fund*, Merry Luskin  
*Environmental Action*, Barak Gale and Brian Besser  
*Finance*, Arthur Slepian  
*Fine Arts*, Robert Gutterman  
*Gift Shop*, Jeff Rubin  
*La'atid*, Geoff Benjamin  
*Leadership Development*, Paul Cohen  
*Library*, Joan Goldman  
*Long-Range Planning*, Allan Gold  
*Membership*, Ami Zusman  
*Newsletter*, Robin Leonard  
*Past Presidents Council*, Merry Luskin  
*Personnel*, David Gellman  
*Public Relations*, Sharyn Saslafsky  
*Rabbi Liaison*, Allan Gold  
*Ritual*, Lyssa Friedman  
*Social Action*, Laura Lowe and Allan Berenstein  
*Toddler/Pre-school Chavurah*, Ilana Bernstein  
*UAHC National Liaison*, Mike Rankin  
*UAHC Regional Liaison*, Daniel Chesir  
*WCGLBJO Liaison*, Neil Grungras  
*Women's Chavurah*, open

*Members wishing to contact any Va'ad member or committee chair are invited to obtain his or her number from the synagogue office.*

**Bikkur Cholim:** If you or a friend who is a member of Sha'ar Zahav is ill in the hospital or at home, and would like to have a member of the Bikkur Cholim Committee call or visit, please notify the synagogue office.

**Member** of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations and the World

Congress of Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Jewish Organizations.

**Services** are held every Friday evening beginning at 8:15 pm (except as noted), with an Oneg Shabbat following services. Services are generally held on the second Saturday of each month at 10 am — check calendar for each month.



**1 Monday**  
13 Adar

- Purim service, led by Rabbi Litman, Greer Hauptman, Debbie Gelber and Daniel Chesir

**2 Tuesday**  
14 Adar

Purim

- Noon, Queer Talmud, 582 Market Street
- 6:30 pm, Dues committee
- 7 pm, Daily Spirituality in Judaism class
- 8 pm, Pathways Through the Prayerbook class

**3 Wednesday**  
15 Adar

- 4 pm, Kadimah Hebrew class
- 7 pm, Newsletter editing

**4 Thursday**  
16 Adar

- 7 pm, Children's Education Board meeting

**5 Friday**  
17 Adar

- 1 pm, Social Action committee's lunch with Tenderloin Jewish Seniors
- 5:49 pm, Candle lighting
- 7 pm, Early service
- 8:15 pm, Shabbat Ki Tissa/ha Parah, led by Paul Cohen and Susan Unger; sermon by Rabbi Litman

**6 Saturday**  
18 Adar

- 9:30 am, Kadimah
- 9:30 am, Torah study
- 9:45 am, "Ethical Teachings: Jewish Women's Writings to Their Children," with Rabbi Litman
- 7 pm, Havdalah with MCC and Sarah Shulman

**7 Sunday**  
19 Adar

- 10:30 am, East Bay Chavurah Planning brunch
- Noon, Chocolate Desserts for Pesach with Jeff Forman
- 2 pm, Hebrew in a Day class

**8 Monday**  
20 Adar

- 6:30 pm, Va'ad meeting
- 7 pm, Newsletter proofread and layout

**9 Tuesday**  
21 Adar

- 7 pm, Daily Spirituality in Judaism class
- 7 pm, Leadership Development class
- 8 pm, Pathways Through the Prayerbook class

**10 Wednesday**  
22 Adar

- 4 pm, Kadimah Hebrew class

**11 Thursday**  
23 Adar

**12 Friday**  
24 Adar

- 5:56 pm, Candle lighting
- 6:30 pm, Kadimah family dinner
- 7:15 pm, Niggun service, led by Jhos Singer
- 8:15 pm, Shabbat Vayakhel-Pekudei/haChodesh, led by Larry Wexler and Mike Rankin; sermon by Mike Rankin

**13 Saturday**  
25 Adar

- 9:30 am, Kadimah
- 9:30 am, Torah study
- 10 am, Shabbat service, led by Ora Prochovnick and Tiela Chalmers
- Noon, Diversity Dialogue, "Gender Identity and Sexuality"

**14 Sunday**  
26 Adar

- Social Action meal program, St. Paulus Church
- 11 am, Tot Family Picnic and Play date, Douglass Park

**15 Monday**  
27 Adar

- Social Action meal program, St. Paulus Church
- 7 pm, Membership committee

**16 Tuesday**  
28 Adar

- Social Action meal program, St. Paulus Church
- Noon, Queer Talmud, 582 Market Street
- 7 pm, Daily Spirituality in Judaism class
- 8 pm, Pathways Through the Prayerbook class

**17 Wednesday**  
29 Adar

- 4 pm, Kadimah Hebrew class
- 6:30 pm, Bikkur Cholim planning meeting

**18 Thursday**  
1 Nisan

**19 Friday**  
2 Nisan

- 6:02 Candle lighting
- 8:15 pm, East Bay service
- 8:15 pm, Shabbat Vayikra, led by Dev Felder Naily and Eileen Levy; sermon by Alan Ferrara

**20 Saturday**  
3 Nisan

- 9:30 am, Kadimah and Jewish Dance program
- 9:30 am, Torah study
- 3 pm, HIV Support group

**21 Sunday**  
4 Nisan

**22 Monday**  
5 Nisan

- 6 pm, Healing service

**23 Tuesday**  
6 Nisan

- 7 pm, Panel discussion, "Legalizing Lesbian and Gay Families"

**24 Wednesday**  
7 Nisan

- 4 pm, Kadimah Hebrew class
- 7 pm, Pesach preparation class with Rabbi Litman

**25 Thursday**  
8 Nisan

- 6:30 pm, Ritual committee
- 7 pm, Leadership Development class

**26 Friday**  
9 Nisan

- 6:09, Candle lighting
- 8:15 Shabbat Tzav/haGadol, led by Tiela Chalmers and Claire Rappaport; sermon by Rabbi Litman

**27 Saturday**  
10 Nisan

- 9:30 am, Kadimah Pesach Celebration and Preparation program
- 9:30 am, Torah study

**28 Sunday**  
11 Nisan

**29 Monday**  
12 Nisan

**30 Tuesday**  
13 Nisan

- Noon, Queer Talmud, 582 Market Street

**31 Wednesday**  
14 Nisan

Passover, First Seder  
No Kadimah

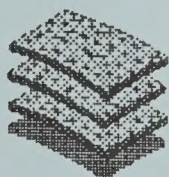
## East Bay Services

March 19, at the home of Ed Tanovitz, 1612 East 38th Street, Oakland, 510/482-4825.

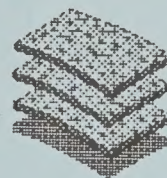
Note: Gray areas indicate religious services.



# Congregational Seder Reservations



*Congregational Seder  
Thursday, April 1, 1999  
Fort Mason Officer's Club*



## **Reservations must be received by Friday, March 19**

As always, we will celebrate Passover as a congregation on the second night, which this year falls on Thursday, April 1. We will hold our seder at Fort Mason Officer's Club, where we have enjoyed ourselves in a surprisingly haimish atmosphere. The food is very good and the price is extremely reasonable.

Space is limited and allocated on a "first come" basis, with CSZ members given priority. Please fill out the reservation form below, and return it to the CSZ office **NO LATER THAN FRIDAY, MARCH 19.**

We always need a few volunteers for an hour or so before the seder to help set up the tables. If you can help, please contact the CSZ office.

**NOTE:** Fort Mason Officers' Club is located at the very foot of Franklin Street across Bay Street in the park, **NOT** across from the Marina Safeway.

-----✂-----  
Please print: NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ MEMBER      ☐ NON-MEMBER

Please reserve the following number of places for:

\_\_\_\_\_ MEMBERS @ \$28      \_\_\_\_\_ NON-MEMBERS @ \$36      \_\_\_\_\_ CHILDREN @ \$14

Indicate choice of meal(s): \_\_\_\_\_ CHICKEN      \_\_\_\_\_ VEGETARIAN

Would you like to be seated at a table of single people? \_\_\_\_\_

Please list people on the reverse of this sheet with whom you would like to be seated. **EVERY EFFORT WILL BE MADE TO SATISFY ALL REQUESTS, BUT THEY CANNOT BE GUARANTEED UNLESS A WHOLE TABLE IS RESERVED.**

Our synagogue subsidizes the cost of the seder for children and those unable to afford the entire cost. Can you help with this?

I WISH TO DONATE \$ \_\_\_\_\_ TOWARDS SUBSIDIES  
I/WE WISH TO REQUEST A SUBSIDY \_\_\_\_\_

Signing for hearing impaired people can be requested when reservations are made.

**ALL RESERVATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED IN THE CSZ OFFICE NO LATER THAN FRIDAY, MARCH 19.** My check is enclosed in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_.

MAIL TO: **CONGREGATION SHA'AR ZAHAV  
290 DOLORES STREET  
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94103**

For further information, contact the synagogue office at 861-6932.







# SUKKOT IN APRIL

April 25, 1999

## Volunteer Registration

**No specific skills are necessary to participate!**



Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Number of people volunteering in your family or group \_\_\_\_\_  
(For safety and insurance reasons, children must be at least 14 years of age.)

No skills are necessary to volunteer. If you have any of the following skills, please indicate below. (Check all that apply.)

\_\_\_ Painting \_\_\_ Electrical \_\_\_ Carpentry \_\_\_ Food Preparation  
Other \_\_\_\_\_

To help cover the costs of the project, each volunteer is being asked to make a \$10 contribution. Please make your check payable to Congregation Sha'ar Zahav, noting that it is for Sukkot in April. We want everyone to volunteer. Please let us know if you are unable to make a contribution, and we will cover the cost.

If you are unable to participate and would like to sponsor volunteer(s) we would appreciate your financial help. Please send a check with this form and indicate how many volunteers you are sponsoring. Any funds that are not used for this project will be donated to the Harvey Milk Social Action Fund.

**REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS APRIL 9!** Send in this registration form with \$10 to Congregation Sha'ar Zahav, attn: Renée Bauer, 290 Dolores Street, S.F. 94103.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call either Laura Lowe 247-2409 or Prudence Carter (510) 235-1666. If you are unavailable on April 25 but want to help, we need your assistance organizing supplies and volunteers. Please call either Laura or Prudence.





